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GERMANS TRICK U. S. IS CHARGE

State Department To Investigate
Identity Of Bernstorff's Mes-
senger Given Safe Passage

CLAIM HE BOUGHT MUNITIONS

Dr. Meyer Gerhard Reported To
Be In Reality Dr. Alfred Von
Meyer Of Kaiser's Army

Other smaller lines in the state, not
making any requests to be heard are
being assessed practically on the same
basis as last year.

MANY BELGIANS BUY THEIR FOOD

Treasurer of Relief Commission Ex-
plains Methods; All Contributions
Not U. S. Charity

NEW YORK, June 16.—Alexander J. Hemphill, treasurer here of the com-
mission for relief in Belgium, made
public today a letter he received from
Herbert C. Hoover, chairman of the
commission in London, in which Mr.
Hoover says he regrets intensely that
any misconstruction should have
arisen in America concerning the oper-
ation of the commission for Dr. Al-
fred Meyer Gerhard, a representative
of the German Red Cross, who was
returning to Berlin to carry a per-
sonal message from the German am-
bassador after his private audience
with President Wilson.

State department officials knew of
the story today only from published
reports. They received, however, and
at the personal request of Count Bern-
storff, the German ambassador was in
reality Dr. Alfred Von Meyer, chief
of the supply department of the Ger-
man army, who had been secretly in
the United States buying munitions
of war, are to be investigated by the
state department.

Simultaneously another version of
the story—that Dr. Alfred Meyer,
while not passing as Meyer, Germans
had been in the country and visited
for the latter for Christiana Incognito
—also will be looked into.

To Bernstorff

State department officials knew of
the story today only from published
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at the personal request of Count Bern-
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of war, are to be investigated by the
state department.

Mr. Jusserand, the French ambas-
sador, at that time inquired closely re-
garding Meyer Gerhard's identity and
state department officials recalled also
that Sir Cecil Spring Rice, the British
ambassador, had suggested there was
evidence of other activity by Gerhard
than Red Cross work.

"It was a letter," said Secretary

Lansing today, "that was given at the
request of the German ambassador
stating that Dr. Meyer Gerhard, who
had been in this country, as the repre-
sentative of the German Red Cross de-
sired to return to Germany."

No question, up to that time, nor
until today, had arisen at the depart-
ment as to whether Meyer Gerhard
might really be Meyer, or if Meyer
were in the country secretly buying
war supplies.

At the British and French embassies
it was said the development was con-
sidered one particularly for the state
department to consider if it had been
imposed on. At the German embassy
all officials were absent.

The state department will look into

the question, not because it involves

any question of international law, so

far as officials could see, but, if the
charge of double identity were sub-
stantiated it would involve diplomatic
usage and courtesy.

American Red Cross officials were

inclined not to question the identity
of Dr. Meyer Gerhard. They said he
came bearing apparently proper let-
ters of introduction and with the en-
dorsement of the German embassy.

Some inquiry probably may be de-
ferred to the minister from Denmark,

Constantine Brum, who is said to have

arranged for the passage of Meyer

Gerhard on the steamer United States.

PULLS FROM UNION

Buite Miners Organization Hints at
Mismanagement of Funds; Pay in
\$1,000,000, Get Nothing

BUTTE, Mont., June 16.—Alleging
that in the twenty years of its affilia-
tion with the Western Federation of
Miners it had contributed \$1,000,000 to
the federation for which it had not re-
ceived one cent's worth of benefit, and
blaming it at irregularities in the
handling of strike funds, the Butte
Miners union, parent organization of
the Western Federation of Miners, in
resolutions made public today, formally
withdrew from the federation and
ordered its charter returned to federa-
tion headquarters at Denver.

TWENTY-FIVE APPLICANTS
FOR CITIZENSHIP PAVERS

Those who are to take out their
second naturalization papers must file

their applications with James Beatty,

court clerk, on June 17 or 18 if they

are to be given final papers this year.

The law provides that these ap-
plications must be filed ninety days before

the petitions are heard.

The petitions will be heard Septem-
ber 18, when the United States district

attorney will be present and interro-
gate the applicants as to qualifications.

There are about twenty-five applicants

to receive citizenship papers at that

time.

SHAWNEE POTATO CROP
SOON WILL BE MARKETED

SHAWNEE, Ok., June 16.—The potato

crop will soon be on the market and

potato buyers are opening offices

preparatory to handling the spuds.

Several years ago Shawnee became known

as one of the best potato producing

sections in the southwest, and hun-
dreds of carloads were shipped out.

Since that time much of the land has

been given over to cotton and other

crops. This year, however, the farm-
ers went back to potatoes and the crop

promises equally as in the old days.

COUNT ZEPPELIN SERIOUSLY
ILL, IS REPORT FROM BERLIN

LONDON, June 16.—A dispatch

from Berlin says a message has

been received from Berlin stating that

Count Zeppelin is seriously ill with

bronchitis at Stuttgart.

GOETHALS TO BE RETIRED
FROM ARMY, BY REQUEST

NEW YORK, May 16.—Many wo-
men suffragists who have forwarded

checks to the city treasury in payment

of taxes have included with their

checks protests on the historic ground

that "taxation without representation

is ty."

RY. ASSESSMENT SAME

State Board of Equalization Makes No
Material Changes in Per Mile Valua-
tion Against That of Last Year

The state board of equalization to-
day passed on the 1915 assessment of

various railroads in the state all of

which were placed on the same basis

as last year. The main line of the

Frisco is assessed on a basis of \$42,840

a mile, the Santa Fe, \$50,588; the Gulf,

Colorado & Santa Fe, the same; the

Rock Island, \$41,982; the Saty, \$50,

504. The side tracks of the different

roads were also assessed on the basis

of last year, which is less than the

main track.

The Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf,

Wichita Falls and Northwestern, Okla-
homa; New Mexico & Pacific, Fort

Smith & Western, Great and several

other of the smaller lines desired held

tugs before the board. The Missouri,

Oklahoma & Gulf is being heard this

afternoon.

One Thousand Tons Less Coal
Used By Lusitania; Some
Boilers Cold

BRITISH HEARING NEAR AN END

Baron Mersey Also Satisfied On
Questions Regarding Absence
Of Warship Convoy

Other smaller lines in the state, not
making any requests to be heard are
being assessed practically on the same
basis as last year.

TRAFFICA LA VENICE

Hogans of Italian Water Streets Have
Nothing On Oklahoma City Travel
Benders Today

LONDON, June 16.—Baron Mersey,
president of the court of inquiry into
the sinking of the steamship Lusitania,
intimated this afternoon that the
investigation soon would be ended. The
baron said his mind was quite satis-
fied as to the most important ques-
tions—the speed of the vessel at the
time she was attacked and the ab-
sence of British destroyers as an es-
cort. He believed the court had
all the evidence it was likely to get
for it all the evidence it was likely to
obtain relative to the alleged shoot-
ing of officers and the use of boats
at the time of the catastrophe.

Counsel connected with the case
were inclined to believe tomorrow

would be the last day.

One of the points elicited today

was that there was only one boat drill

during the voyage. On that occasion

some members of the crew swung out

a lifeboat and jumped in. This drill

lasted only a few minutes.

The coal saved during the voyage

by cutting off six of the 25 boilers

amounted to one thousand tons, ac-

cording to the testimony of a passenger

from Staff Captain Anderson.

Booth Is Witness

The inquiry was resumed to-

day with Alfred Booth, chairman

of the board of the Cunard Steam-

ship company as a witness. The at-

torney general, Sir Edward Carson,

asked Mr. Booth why the Lusitania

was economizing by using only 19 of

her 25 boilers at the time she was tor-

pedoed and if there were any differ-
ence between 18 knots, the speed at

which the Lusitania was proceeding

when attacked, and 21 knots. Mr.

Booth replied that no steamer making

more than 14 knots was known to have

been struck by a torpedo from a sub-
marine until the Lusitania was hit.

The witness said the Cunard compa-

ny was unable to communicate with

their ship by wireless except through

the admiralty and had given no wire-

less instructions to Captain Turner.

General instructions given previously

covered the closing of the watertight

compartments, the swinging out of

boats on entering the danger zone and

an order not to slow down to take

on a pilot or to lie to for the tide. It

was at Captain Turner's discretion to

arrange the time for the vessel's ar-

ival.

Mr. Booth said he received no word

from Captain Turner during the voy-
age. On the morning of the day the

Lusitania was torpedoed, the Cunard

company asked the admiralty to com-

municate with the ship concerning

threats against it.

Donald MacMaster, representing the

Canadian government, asked the wit-
ness whether by cutting out both

watches all the boilers could have

been worked as it was admitted the

Lusitania had a sufficient supply of

coal.

SOME CORN LAID BY

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